

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 22 remain in the application. Claims 1, 3, 12, 14, 20, have been amended.

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of each of the pending claims.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to because they do not include the reference numeral "224," which is mentioned on page 14 of the specification.

In the amended specification, the reference numeral "224" has been replaced with "210," which is shown in FIG. 3 of the drawings. As such, the objection to the drawings is hereby overcome.

Rejections to the Claims

Claim 1 is rejected under 35. U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,687,510 to Esteves et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Esteves").

The amended claim 1 is directed to a method for estimating a signal-to-noise ratio of a forward traffic channel in a wireless communication system. The method includes a step of estimating an adjustment to convert a signal-to-noise ratio for the pilot channel to a signal-to-noise ratio for the forward traffic channel. Specifically, the adjustment comprises a fast correction component and a slow correction component.

Esteves teaches a method for power allocation on a reverse link power control channel of a communication system. However, nowhere in Esteves describes an adjustment that comprises a fast correction component and a slow correction component. As such, the amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Esteves.

When rejecting the original claim 3 over Esteves in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,439 to Jalali (hereinafter referred to as "Jalali") under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner asserts that "Jalali discloses a method where the adjustment is comprised of two components, one fast and one slow." Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

Jalali teaches a method for generating power control commands in a wireless communication system. The method determines a first quality metric in response to the received interference and the first received signal energy, and a second quality metric in response to the received interference and the second received signal energy (col. 6, lines 50 – 56). The two metrics are then used separately to generate a first power control command stream and a second power control command stream (col. 6, lines 57 – 60). Depending on whether the frame rate is changed, the base station uses either the first power control command stream or the second power control command stream for power control purposes (col. 5, lines 1 – 9). In other words, the first and second metrics are never the components of a single adjustment. They are applied separately.

Furthermore, the first and second quality metrics are different from the fast and slow correction components. In Jalali, the first and second quality metrics are two E_b/N_o values, where E_b is the received signal energy and N_o is the interference energy (col. 4, lines 40 - 51). However, in the amended claim 1, the fast correction component is derived from a formula $(1 - 2b_k) PCStep$, where b_k is the power control command and $PCStep$ is the power control step size (page 10, lines 22 – 30). This is different from E_b/N_o . Similarly, the slow correction component is derived from a fraction (X_1/X_2) ,

where X_1 is the actual received signal power, and X_2 is the pilot signal power (page 11, line 19 – page 13, line 2). The fraction does not include interference energy N_o , which, however, is the denominator of first and second quality metrics.

Neither Esteves nor Jalali teaches an adjustment that comprises a fast correction component and a slow correction component. As such, the amended claim 1 is patentable over Esteves in view of Jalali. Accordingly, the remaining claims 2 – 11 depending on the independent claim 1 are, therefore, patentable as well.

For the same reasons discussed above, the amended, independent claim 12 that includes an adjustment comprising a fast correction component and a slow correction component is also patentable over Esteves in view of Jalali. Accordingly, the remaining claims 13 – 22 depending on the independent claim 12 are, therefore, patentable as well.

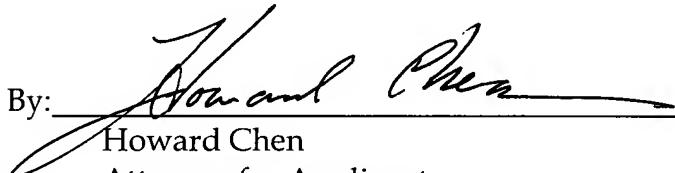
CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this application in an allowable form. In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are drawn to a novel subject matter, patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is therefore, respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Should the Examiner deem that any further clarification is desirable, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Howard Chen
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,615

Preston Gates & Ellis LLP
55 Second Street, Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94105-3493
Telephone: (415) 882-8029
Facsimile: (415) 882-8220